STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

In the claims, please cancel claims 18-33 and amend claims 1, 14, 15 and 16 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A process for delivery of a modified expressible nucleic acid to a cell, comprising:
   a) preparing a nucleic acid molecule having an expressible sequence;
   b) forming an attachment of a compound, having a molecular weight of 60 kD or less, to the N7 position of a guanine within the expressible sequence of the nucleic acid molecule at a ratio of less than 1 modification per 100 base pairs; and,
   c) delivering the nucleic acid to a cell wherein expression of the expressible sequence is greater than 50% of the level of expression obtained from the expressible sequence not having a modifying chemical attachment.
2. (canceled)
3. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein the compound comprises a nucleic acid transfer enhancing signal.
4. (original) The process of claim 3 wherein the nucleic acid transfer enhancing signal is selected from the group consisting of a nuclear localizing signal, a ligand that binds a receptor, and a releasing signal.
5. (previously presented) The process of claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of: an enhanced immune response molecule, an antigen, an antibody, a hapten, a membrane active compound, a peptide, a polymer, a polyion, and a fluorescent compound.
6. (canceled)
7. (previously presented) The process of claim 1 wherein forming an attachment comprises modifying the nucleic acid using an alkylating molecule.
8. (original) The process of claim 7 wherein the alkylating molecule is selected from the group consisting of a mustard and a 3-membered ring system.
9. (original) The process of claim 8 wherein the mustard is selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen mustard and a sulfur mustard.
10. (original) The process of claim 9 wherein the 3-membered ring system is selected from the group consisting of aziridines, oxiranes, cyclopropyls, and episulfides.
11. (original) The process of claim 9 wherein the nitrogen mustard consists of an R-chloride derivative.

12. (previously presented) The process of claim 8 wherein the 3-membered ring system consists of a CPI moiety.
13. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid consists of double-stranded and single stranded DNA.
14. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process of claim 1 wherein forming an attachment comprises forming a Lewis acid:Lewis base complex between the compound and the nucleic acid, wherein the Lewis acid is not hydrogen.
15. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process of claim 14 wherein the Lewis acid is a transition metal.
16. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process of claim 15 wherein the Lewis acid is platinum.
17. (canceled)

18-33. (canceled)